

# NORTH 8TH NEWS- LETTER

Issue 1

Winter 2020/21

## Mayor's Corner

Welcome to another season of enjoying warm when compared to our homes in the North. Indeed it is a season like none of us have ever experienced before. Covid 19 has taken its toll on what we can do and it is certainly different than what we would like to do. We are missing our group get togethers and eating out in restaurants, going to shows and many other activities. Although the resort pools are open your temperature is taken as you enter the area and masks must be worn except while actually in the water. Other activities are also available such as tennis, pickle ball etc. Leeland has a few bean bag boards and bags available for those who might wish to play. The Activity is held every Tuesday at 10:00 AM on North 7<sup>th</sup> street.

Masks must be worn anytime you are close to others etc. But it is still warm here and in my view a lot better than snow, ice and cold winds.

At the current time Covid is on the increase both here and most places across the nation, and we must remain very careful with what and how we do things.

As I write this the vaccine has arrived and should start being administered within a few days. That is certainly good news but it does not mean it is over. It will be some time before enough people can get it to stop or even slow the pandemic so we must remain vigilant. It looks like 2021 could be a

lot better, but until then we are going to have to restrict what we do.

Most of our Canadian friends have not been able to come down this year and their places are empty. The border is closed to vehicle traffic. However they can fly here and a few have chosen to do just that. But that is not really a choice for those that are in motor homes and trailers so at the moment there are quite a few empty spaces around. We miss them and hope that they can return soon.

## Covid 19 Prevention Techniques Do it : for the health of it!

By Jean Streppa

So much time has passed since many of us vacated Mesa Regal last March in an effort to get back home and avoid Covid 19 in the process . Here we are again – well at least some of us – having returned from our northern most homes, and very little has changed. Covid is still very much with us – EVERYWHERE – and no matter where we go, we hear and even see the results of this deadly virus. You cannot escape it on the news; signs are everywhere telling you what you know so well: MASK UP, SOCIAL DISTANCE, NO LARGE GATHERINGS ANYWHERE FOR ANY REASON, WASH YOUR HANDS, CANCEL THE HOLIDAYS – well almost—AND STAY HOME! OH YES – AND DON'T TRAVEL FOR NOW!

The advice is prevention 101! You may not like it or even believe it necessary, yet here we are. Our borders are closed at this writing all because of Covid. Indeed the restrictions test your patience and your mental attitude --- daily. Normal life as we knew it, has seemingly disappeared. And that is all without our consent ! What happened? When did it happen? How did it happen? I don't remember ever voting on this restricted lifestyle – do you? No! Of course not. This is America after all, the land of the free! Again – what happened? Well, we know what happened and approximately when it happened. We can trace the first Covid news items back to December 2019 and continuing forward from there.

Slowly, recommendations from various health agencies (CDC comes to mind) came forth and countries enacted different preventive strategies including rules of enforcement of same. Ever increasing hospitalizations and death totals ruled the airwaves and the print media. The economy tanked, businesses large and small struggled for survival, and unemployment numbers went sky high in many areas across the nation. The picture was grim with little or no relief in sight.

Alas, the promise of a vaccine coming soon appears on the horizon. In fact, it is being distributed in various locations around the US. Health care workers are first to receive it Our turn is coming. A return normal living is close.

In the meantime, I, for one, shall choose to practice all the prevention techniques that are suggested to avoid this lethal virus. Reducing the risk of this contagious disease is my goal. I hope you will join

me.

Infor. for this article from numerous daily print media articles, and TV/internet reports.

### **A special thank you!**

To Joan and Virgil Oldre for making and distributing masks early in the Covid19 pandemic. You were way ahead of the curve and we are very grateful for your generosity, your kindness and of course for the masks that were otherwise unavailable for purchase at the time of your distribution back in March 2020.

### **A tribute to Helena Potter 1933 – 2020**

by Jean Streppa

It is with great sadness that I write about the death of Helena Potter on June 18, 2020. Helena is survived by her four children, eleven grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren. Helena was predeceased by her husband, Dick Potter. Helena enjoyed 26 winters in Mesa and enjoyed many friends. She loved to play cards and talking and laughing with friends and family alike. She will be missed by all who knew her.

### **2 weeks before Christmas, and all through the land” A letter in verse**

Two weeks before Christmas, and all  
through the land,

The virus was spreading and parties  
were banned.

The kids were at home, their schooling  
online,

And all of us hoping for vaccines on  
time.  
To save all our loved ones, our kith and  
our kin,  
From lying in hospitals we can't get in.  
Then all health care workers, they raised  
such a cry,  
As FedEx and UPS took to the sky.  
On Pfizer, Moderna, Astra-Zeneca too,  
On Johnson and Johnson, we're waiting  
for you.  
Let's get those vaccine shots into our

arms,  
To keep us away from COVID-19  
harms.  
I heard Dr. Fauci say, "All that I ask,  
Wash your hands, stay apart, and please  
wear a mask!"

Philinda Hutchings,  
Phoenix  
The Arizona Republic  
December 14, 2020